

# Livingstone Range School Division #68

## Superintendent Report

### 2018-2019 School Year



**Darryl Seguin**  
**Board Meeting: May 8, 2019**

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#### Highlights

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#### Functions & Meetings

- Monthly LRSD Board of Trustees regular meeting
- Board Policy Meeting
- PBOE Education Services Agreement meeting
- Kainai Education Services Agreement meeting
- LRSD Board Committee of the Whole meeting
- Monthly Administrative Council meeting
- Attended the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual First Nations, Metis and Inuit Gathering along with several LRSD school based staff. Our Elder in Residence was asked to provide a blessing and some remarks on the second day of the gathering
- Political candidate engagement meetings with the LRSD Board of Trustees
- Division office staff meeting
- Attended Livingstone School Graduation
- Attended Regional School Council meeting
- School Visits to four of our schools
- Attended an Inter-department meeting with representatives from transportation, OH & S, maintenance, technology and senior management

#### Other

- Eye on Education Article written—"Kids These Days" (attached)
- Completed and wrote up evaluation reports for new Administrators

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#### Key Areas for Next Month

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- Monthly LRSD Board of Trustees meeting
- Colony Tour and Meeting of the Whole with the LRSD Board of Trustees
- PBOE Education Services Agreement meeting
- CASSIX Spring Meetings
- Communications Performance Review evaluation
- Attend MHHS Graduation
- Attend WCCHS Graduation
- Create LRSD Leadership Program – We will be developing a leadership program over the next few months with a Sept. 2019 goal for implementation. The purpose is to build internal informal and formal leader candidates. We will be using the Leadership Quality Standards as well as integration of FranklinCovey leadership materials. Different content delivery scenarios are being investigated which may include a series of evening meetings, inter-school collaboration days or a combination of both.
- Vacation time



Website and Social Media

Website	Twitter	YouTube
11 posts in April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 25 Tweets</li> <li>• 1,074 profile visits (# people who opened our Twitter profile at least once)</li> <li>• 593 followers (up from 588 previous month)</li> </ul>	No new posts in April

Announcements

Karly prepared announcements for:

- Sean Latta, Principal at West Meadow Elementary
- Robert Rodgers, Asst Principal at WCCHS
- Nick Beer, Principal at Granum School
- Electoral Ward Boundary Review
- Regional Skills Canada Competition

Political Candidates' Meetings

In preparation for the Board of Trustees' meetings with local MLA candidates, Karly prepared:

- Advocacy Points: outlines Board priorities, partnerships and capital plan, unique programming in the Division, funding issues, and areas for advocacy for the provincial government
- Briefing Notes: background, current status, and recommendations regarding the issues of Transportation and Predictable & Sustainable Funding for LRSD.
- Let's Talk: select questions for the candidates about rural school boards, the role of elected school board trustees, and ongoing funding issues.

**LIVINGSTONE RANGE SCHOOL DIVISION NO. 68**

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
ADVOCACY POINTS 2019**

Livingstone Range School Division No. 68 is a leader in providing quality education to rural students in a dynamic learning environment.

**Board Priorities**

- **Literacy & Numeracy:** LRSD is committed to helping all students become fluent in reading, writing, and math skills.
- **Success for All Students:** LRSD is committed to helping all students be successful in school by providing a support network.
- **Transparency:** LRSD is committed to being a stakeholder transparent from school to post-secondary or work.

**Unique Programming**

- **Livingstone 8th Academy:** Self-paced program for Grade 4-7 students with non-traditional program options through Livingstone School.
- **FACEB:** Summer school-based program for at-risk Grade 6 students to promote personal growth and development.
- **Leader in Me:** An educational and social-emotional development model for K-Grade 5 students at W.A. Day Elementary School.
- **Hockey Academy:** An in-house program for Grade 7-12 students and former live student at Mike Thomas's Matthew Latour High School.
- **Ontario & Technology Studies (OTS):** Hands-on education that helps develop skills to improve employability after high school, including welding, plumbing, automotive, BSL, Green Certificate, and more.
- **Dual Credit Opportunities:** Agreements with University of Northern British Columbia, and DSI provide dual credit for high school and post-secondary credit for select high school courses.

**Partnerships & Capital Plan**

- **Kids First Family Centre:** W.A. Day Elementary School partners to allow for use of programming and building resources to support the healthy growth of all children families.
- **Team of First Movers:** LRSD, Division Office partners to allow the use of all the space, technology resources and other shared resources in meaningful collaboration.
- **Grade 8/9/10/11/12:** Livingstone 8th Academy partners to create programming and offering opportunities as well as access to the building for all school days.
- **Capital Plan:** Provides infrastructure for J.T. Foster High School, Livingstone School, and Oxygo School.

**Funding**

- **Transportation:** 47% of students in our division ride the bus to school and many parents are concerned with rising gas prices. In addition to a current transportation funding deficit, funds will be less readily available in the 2019-2020 fiscal year.
- **Mental Health:** According to a provincial report, anxiety and depressive cases for junior and senior high school students in 2018 are higher than the Grade 6 or average. Mental health services for rural Alberta are lacking.
- **Predictable and Sustainable Funding:** The current funding model does not seem to meet the growing demands on our basic core programs of rural population.

Livingstone Range

School Support

- Horace Allen Eco Club logo
- Horace Allen logo update
- JT Foster Dual Credit poster
- MHHS Hockey Academy Poster

## Eye on Education

May 1, 2019 Publication—Lethbridge Herald

### Kids These Days

Have you ever been told that ‘kids these days’ have life way easier than generations before? I remember as a kid hearing how my grandparent’s generation had to walk ... bare foot ... through six feet of snow ... uphill ... both ways ... all alone ... to get to school. While these conversations often involved smiles, winks and some good-natured joking about how spoiled we were, I comfortably admit to wholeheartedly embracing some of the changes brought about by the passage of time. I am grateful for warm boots, remote car starters, paved roads, and incredible technology that allows me to have human contact almost whenever and wherever I need it as I travel to various schools. Life is certainly different today than in times past, and that is affecting our children for better and for worse.

I recently attended a presentation by a colleague geared toward helping parents better understand today’s youth. In his doctoral research, my colleague has studied the work of Dr. Jean Twenge who defines the group of children born between 1995-2012 as iGen. This is the generation that currently fills the majority of our school system. They are the first generation to have grown up with cell phones, most likely had an Instagram page at an early age and probably do not remember life before the Internet. According to Twenge, here are some of their characteristics:

- Their lives are heavily shaped by technology
- They engage in fewer social activities than past generations did
- They don't read much
- They don't leave the house or go on dates
- They have short attention spans
- They have alarmingly high teen depression and suicide rates
- They are doing drugs less often than past generations
- They actually wear seat belts
- They work harder and care more about saving money than Millennials
- They have higher on-time high school graduation rates than Millennials

As an educator of 27 years, I have witnessed first-hand many of these characteristics and believe them to be true for the majority of our students. Particularly concerning to me is a significant increase in anxiety and depression. Twenge believes that increased time spent using technology and social media has impacted iGens resulting in a spike in depression and decreased happiness. In an effort to mitigate negative side effects that have come with changing times, school divisions across the province are increasing mental health training for staff, adding additional time for in-school counseling supports and working to improve access to services with mental health partners.

Regardless of inevitable challenges, each new generation has something to offer. I believe that as we work together, parents, educators and community members can successfully support iGens as they navigate through their unique struggles and discover their unparalleled potential. We will empower our youth through both words and example as both we, and they, follow Twenge’s message to:

- Remember that our technologies are tools that we use, not a tool that uses us
- Exercise, get outdoors and enjoy nature
- Get sufficient sleep
- Visit friends in person, not only on social media
- Give your friend a hug